

18th Sunday of the Year 31st July 2022

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<u>MASS TIMES AT CLONARD</u> <u>Public Mass & Masses via Webcam</u>

Sunday (Vigil Sat- 7.30pm), 7.00am, 9.30am, 11.00am, and 12.30pm. Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri. 7.00am, 9.30am and 6.15pm. Thursday (Novena) 7.00am, 9.30am, 6.15pm and 8.00pm. Saturday 7.00am, 9.30am & 12.00 Noon.

MONDAY 1ST AUGUST,

FEAST OF ST ALPHONSUS LIGUORI

27th September 1696— 1st August 1787.

We thank you Father, for having given us Alphonsus as a witness to your love among the men and women of his time.

We praise you

for his wisdom as a teacher of the Christian life,

for his zeal in bringing the hope and freedom of the Gospel to the poor and broken-hearted,

for the warm strength of his love for Jesus and Mary.

Help us to follow the example of his life,

to draw fresh inspiration from his teaching,

to find consolation in his prayer for us

and so to come to share with him and all the saints in the fullness of Redemption where Jesus Christ reigns as Lord for ever and ever.



The rich man in the parable believed his future was secure, and that his good fortune was entirely due to his own merits. It must have come as a shock to learn that his life was God's to give and God's to take away. We might even feel a sneaking admiration for this industrious man. There is in all of us some streak of greed and covetousness, wanting to own things at all costs.

We have the voluntary poverty of Jesus; born in a place used to house animals; he left this world owning nothing, stripped even of his clothes before being crucified. On the other side, we need some worldly goods, a place to live and money to live on. And there are many ways to use money responsibly. Someone rich who uses that wealth to provide worthwhile employment, is doing more than one who claims to believe the gospel but does nothing for the welfare of others.

Nothing can better show the relativity of money than the question, "This pile of yours, when death comes knocking – whose shall it be?'

So Jesus speaks of treasure in heaven, as quite different from financial profit on earth. "There are no pockets in the shroud" is a wise old saying.

It is such a simple lesson, but one we never will learn unless we want to. When we die, we have to let go of everything. A doctor was at the bedside of a wealthy woman who was dying, who a reputation for being miserly. She had no family of her own, so there was great interest as to who would inherit her wealth. ("Where there's a will, there are relatives!') When she passed away, one of the nurses whispered "I wonder how much did she leave behind?" Quietly the doctor answered, "She left everything."



We thank you for last week's Collection which came to $\pounds 2,735.$ Also for your kind donations, online and by post.

The Bishop's collection will be included today.

Feast Days this week:

Thursday 4th August: St John Vianney, the Curé of Ars Friday, 5th August, Feast of Our Lady of the Snows, Rome Saturday 6th August: Transfiguration of the Lord

Volunteers Wanted!

To accompany young people, and adults, with learning disabilities on their journey of faith.

SPRED groups across the Diocese provide a place for people with learning disabilities to get together, meet friends, grow in faith, and make a valuable contribution to Parish life. Whether you have 2hrs a month or 2hrs a week to spare we would love to welcome you into one of our groups.

The best gift you can give is you. Contact Louise for more information and to find a SPRED group near you. Tel: 07922437679 Email: <u>I.mcquillan@downandconnor.org</u>